

intermittent or a modified work schedule is medically necessary, the employee and Appointing Authority shall attempt to work out a schedule which meets the employee's needs without unduly disrupting the operations of the workplace.

5. If the employee has accrued sick leave, personal leave, compensatory leave, or vacation leave credits at the commencement of his/her medical leave, that employee may use such leave credits for which s/he may be eligible under the sick leave, personal leave, or vacation leave provisions of this Agreement.
6. At the expiration of the medical leave, the employee shall be returned to the same equivalent position with the same status, pay and length of service credit as of the date of her/his leave. If during the period of the leave, employees in an equivalent position have been laid off through no fault of their own, the Employer will extend the same rights or benefits, if any, extended to employees of equal length of service in the equivalent position in the department.
7. Between periods of unpaid medical leave, where an employee returns to the payroll for a period of less than two (2) weeks, when a holiday falls during that time, no holiday pay or compensatory time shall be granted for such holiday.
8. During the time an employee is on medical leave, the employee shall be entitled to group health insurance coverage benefits on the same terms and conditions in effect at the time the leave began, provided the employee continues to pay the required employee share of premium while on leave. If the employee fails to return from leave, the Commonwealth may recover the cost it incurred in maintaining insurance coverage under its group health plan for the duration of the employee's leave, in compliance with the requirements set forth under the FMLA and regulations thereunder.

Section 8.8 Non-FMLA Family Leave

- A. Upon written application to the Appointing Authority, including a statement of any reasons, any employee who has completed his/her probationary period, or if there is no probationary period who has been employed at least three (3) consecutive months who has given at least two (2) weeks prior notice of his/her anticipated date of departure and who has given notice of his/her intention to return, may be granted non-FMLA family leave for a period not exceeding ten (10) weeks. Such leave shall be without pay or benefits for such period. The Appointing Authority may, in his/her discretion, assign an employee to temporarily backfill for an employee who is on non-FMLA family leave. Such assignment may not be subject to the grievance procedure. The purpose for which an employee may submit his/her

application for such unpaid leave shall be limited to the need to care for, or to make arrangements for care of grandparent, grandchild, sister or brother living in the same household, or child whether or not the child (or children) is natural, adoptive, foster, stepchild, or child under the legal guardianship of the employee.

- B. Ten (10) days of non-FMLA family leave may be taken in not less than one half day increments. However, such leave requires the prior approval of the Appointing Authority or his/her designee.
- C. If an employee has accrued sick leave, personal leave, compensatory leave, or vacation leave credits at the commencement of her/his non-FMLA family leave, that employee may use such leave credits for which s/he may be eligible under the sick leave, personal leave, or vacation leave provisions of this Agreement.
- D. Between periods of non-FMLA family leave, where an employee returns to the payroll for a period of less than two weeks, when a holiday falls during that time, no holiday pay or compensatory time shall be granted for such holiday.

Section 8.9 Authorized Leave of Absence Without Pay

- A. The department/agency head, or his/her designee, may grant an employee a leave of absence or an extension of a leave of absence upon written request filed by the employee. The written request shall include a detailed statement of the reason for the requested leave. A copy of the approved written request shall be placed in the employee's personnel file.
- B. No leave of absence for a period longer than three (3) months shall be granted pursuant to this section without the prior approval of the Appointing Authority.
- C. If an employee shall fail to return to his/her position at or before completion of the period for which a leave of absence has been granted, the Appointing Authority shall, within fourteen (14) days after the completion of such period, give the employee notice that his/her employment is considered to be terminated.

Section 8.10 Education Leave

Employees may be granted a paid leave of absence in accordance with the policies of the Employer for educational purposes, to attend conferences, seminars, briefing sessions, or other functions of a similar nature that are intended to improve or upgrade the individual's skill or professional ability. The employee shall not suffer any loss of seniority or benefits as a result of such leave.